



TO: Dr. Joel D. Boyd, Superintendent

FROM: Linus J. Guillory Jr., PhD, Chief Schools Officer
Robin Desmond, Chief Academic Officer

DATE: December 16, 2019

RE: Position Conversion: *Social Emotional Learning Coordinator*

Currently, we have an unfilled social worker position that had previously been connected with the ABE Program at the Lincoln School. In the past, the person in this position served as the coordinator of the ABE program. The current program design relies heavily on the expertise of the Lincoln principal and assistant principal, who both monitor and supervise all aspects of the program.

Given that the position has been vacant and that we, as a District, continue to invest in and focus on supporting the SEL needs of students in their home environment, we recommend converting the unfilled social worker position to a Social Emotional Learning Coordinator. We propose using the existing (vacant) social worker position along with a SEL stipend to fund this position.

The immediate work of this position will be to design and run a pilot program within the Greenhalge. By teaching students how to overcome their non-academic barriers to learning, we will increase the students' ability to proactively engage in classroom instruction and other school activities. This position will effectively utilize interventions, school-based teams and resources, as well as analyze data regarding behavioral, physical, and mental health at the student and campus level. We will then utilize the learning from this program and scale it appropriately next school year.

Additionally, the Social Emotional Learning Coordinator will develop and implement K-8 social emotional learning programs and coordinate internal and external resources throughout the Renaissance Network schools. The coordination of resources requires the Social Emotional Learning Coordinator to work in cooperation with school staff, parents and community-based organization representatives to meet the needs of at-risk students and their families. This position will support the District's overall goal of expanding, in a systematic way, Social Emotional Learning by creating safe and respectful climates in our schools. This work will include implementing programs that support children's understanding and managing emotions, setting positive goals, feeling and showing empathy for others, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and making responsible decisions.

